

*[B1] C1  
cont'd  
sub  
D1  
cont*

amount of a TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor wherein said TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is metalloproteinase inhibitors excluding methylprednisolone for the treatment of nerve disorders in said mammal in need of such treatment wherein said nerve disorder is caused by the liberation of TNF- $\alpha$  and compounds triggered by the liberation of or presence of TNF- $\alpha$  by inhibiting TNF- $\alpha$ .

Please insert new claims 3-48:

*sub E1*

3. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is a nerve root injury.

*[B2] C2*

4. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein said nerve root injury is a nucleus pulposus-induced nerve root injury.

*4 5*

5. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein said nerve root injury is sciatica.

*5 6*

6. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the mammal is human.

*6 7*

7. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the mammal is human.

*7 8*

8. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the mammal is human.

*7 9*

9. (New) The method of claim <sup>4</sup>8, wherein the mammal is human.

*8 10*

10. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered systemically.

*9 11*

11. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered systemically.

*C*

*C2*  
*[B2]*  
*Cont 2*  
*Sub E1*  
12. (New) The method of claim ~~4~~, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered systemically.

13. (New) The method of claim ~~5~~<sup>4</sup>, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered systemically.

14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered orally.

15. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered orally.

16. (New) The method of claim ~~4~~, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered orally.

17. (New) The method of claim ~~5~~<sup>4</sup>, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered orally.

*Sub E1*  
18. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

19. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

20. (New) The method of claim ~~4~~, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

*Sub E1*  
21. (New) The method of claim ~~5~~<sup>4</sup>, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intramuscularly.

C

*C2*  
*B2*  
*Opt'd*  
*Sub*  
*E1*  
17 22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intravenously.

18 23. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intravenously.

24. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intravenously.

*Sub*  
*E1*  
19 25. (New) The method of claim <sup>4</sup>5, wherein the TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor is administered intravenously.

20 26. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein said nerve disorder is a nerve root injury.

27. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein said nerve root injury is a nucleus pulposus-induced nerve root injury.

*17*  
21 28. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein said nerve root injury is sciatica.

22 29. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the mammal is human.

*20*  
23 30. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 26, wherein the mammal is human.

31. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein the mammal is human.

*C*

c2  
[B2]  
ant 2  
24 32. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim <sup>21</sup>28, wherein the mammal is human.

25 33. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein said composition formulated for systemical administration.

26 34. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim <sup>20</sup>26, wherein said composition formulated for systemical administration.

35. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein said composition formulated for systemical administration.

27 36. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim <sup>21</sup>28, wherein said composition formulated for systemical administration.

28 37. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein said composition formulated for oral administration.

29 38. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim <sup>20</sup>26, wherein said composition formulated for oral administration.

39. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein said composition formulated for oral administration.

30 40. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim <sup>21</sup>28, wherein said composition formulated for oral administration.

31 41. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein said composition formulated for intramuscular administration.

c

c2  
[B7]  
Con'd

32 42. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim <sup>20</sup>~~26~~, wherein said composition formulated for intramuscular administration.

43. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein said composition formulated for intramuscular administration.

21

33 44. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim ~~28~~, wherein said composition formulated for intramuscular administration.

34 45. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein said composition is in a solution with a carrier for intravenous injection.

20

35 46. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim ~~26~~, wherein said composition is in a solution with a carrier for intravenous injection.

47. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein said composition is in a solution with a carrier for intravenous injection.

21

36 48. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim ~~28~~, wherein said composition is in a solution with a carrier for intravenous injection.

add E' >